

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended): A method for independent tool integration, comprising:  
creating a tool definition file that defines tools, wherein the tools provide server  
filesets for installation on a server;  
delivering the tool definition file to a directory on the server; ~~and~~  
executing a tool command against the tool definition file to integrate the tools; and  
delivering software product's tools to managed nodes, the delivering step comprising:  
copying or packaging the software product's tools into software depot  
directories created during software initialization;  
providing agent filesets for installation on the managed nodes; and  
using software distributor commands to automatically distribute the agent  
filesets to the managed nodes.
2. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the creating step includes creating the  
tool definition file that defines single-system awareness tools.
3. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the creating step includes creating the  
tool definition file that defines multi-system awareness tools.
4. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the executing step includes executing  
the tool command against the tool definition file to add new tools to the tool definition file.
5. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the executing step includes executing  
the tool command against the tool definition file to modify old tools in the tool definition file.
- 6-7. (cancelled).
8. (original): The method of claim 7, further comprising reinstalling the agent  
filesets on the managed nodes during update.

9. (original): The method of claim 6, wherein the delivering the software product's tools to the managed nodes step includes delivering the software product's tools to node groups.
10. (original): The method of claim 6, further comprising delivering a synchronization software in agent configure filesets to facilitate communication between the server and the managed nodes.
11. (original): The method of claim 10, further comprising reinstalling the agent configure filesets into the software depot directories on the server and on the managed nodes during update.
12. (currently amended): An apparatus for independent tool integration, comprising:  
a module for creating a tool definition file that defines tools, wherein the tools provide server filesets for installation on a server;  
a module for delivering the tool definition file to a directory on a server; ~~and~~  
a module for executing a tool command against the tool definition file to integrate the tools; and  
a module for delivering software product's tools to managed nodes, the module for delivering comprising:  
a module for copying or packaging the software product's tools into software depot directories created during software initialization;  
agent filesets to be installed on the managed nodes; and  
software distributor commands that automatically distribute the agent filesets to the managed nodes.
13. (original): The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the module for executing the tool command adds new tools to the tool definition file.
14. (original): The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the module for executing the tool command modifies old tools in the tool definition file.
- 15-16. (cancelled).

17. (original): The apparatus of claim 16, further comprising a module for reinstalling the agent filesets on the managed nodes during update.

18. (original): The apparatus of claim 15, further comprising a module for delivering a synchronization software in agent configure filesets to facilitate communication between the server and the managed nodes.

19. (original): The apparatus of claim 18, further comprising a module for reinstalling the agent configure filesets into the software depot directories on the server and on the managed nodes during update.

20. (currently amended): A method for independent tool integration, comprising:  
creating a tool definition file on a server that defines tools, wherein the tools provide server filesets for installation on a server;  
delivering the tool definition file to a directory on the server;  
executing a tool command against the tool definition file to add new tools to the tool definition file;  
executing the tool command against the tool definition file to modify old tools in the tool definition file; and  
delivering software product's tools to software depot directories to be installed on managed nodes using software distributor command; the delivering step comprising:  
copying or packaging the software product's tools into software depot  
directories created during software initialization;  
providing agent filesets for installation on the managed nodes; and  
using the software distributor commands to automatically distribute the agent  
filesets to the managed nodes.

21. (new): The method of claim 1, wherein the tools are run in a service control manager (SCM) module.

22. (new): The method of claim 21, further comprising  
assigning the tools to roles via an authorization model associated with the SCM module;  
assigning the roles to non-root users via the authorization model; and

running commands or options specified in the tools by the non-root users, based upon the roles assigned, on one or more of nodes associated with the SCM module without external authorization.

23. (new): The apparatus of claim 12, further comprising:

a service control manager (SCM) module that runs on a central management server (CMS), the SCM comprising:

roles that are assigned to users and that define which tool users can run; and

an authorization model that authorizes the users to run the tools on the nodes based on the roles assigned to the users,

wherein the authorization model assigns the roles to non-root users so that the non-root users can run commands or options as root users on the nodes.